

REMARKS

The Specification

The title was objected to as not descriptive. The title has been changed to: "Method and Apparatus for Accessing CIM Management Information Using SNMP Data Formats."

The Abstract was objected to under MPEP § 608.01(b). The Abstract has been replaced. The new Abstract is supported by the application as originally filed, page 2, lines 7-15.

The terms FORTRAN™ and HTML™, as used in the Detailed Description, page 6, lines 17-18, have been reformatted in accordance with the Examiner's request.

The Claims

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6 are unchanged. Claims 3 and 5 are amended. Claims 7-18 are new. Claims 7-18 are supported by the application as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Claim 5 was objected to as having repeated limitations. Claim 5 has been amended, and claim 7 has been added to properly recite the deleted matter from claim 5.

In the Office Action, the originally filed claims were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious in view of Menzies et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,317,748) and Chu et al. (U.S. App No. 2002/0123966). This rejection is not supported by the art and should be withdrawn, for the reasons below.

Claim 1, by way of illustration, recites:

A method for accessing management information using SNMP-formats, the information stored in CIM formats, the method comprising:

receiving a request message from an SNMP client;

mapping the request message into CIM formats; and

performing at least one of retrieving and setting a CIM object value.

The Office Action states on page 4, paragraph 6, that "Menzies discloses ...receiving a request message from an SNMP client," and "mapping the request message into CIM formats." On the contrary, Menzies does not teach receiving a request message, and mapping the request message into CIM format. Instead, Menzies describes techniques for mapping SNMP objects to object classes, particularly MOF-described object classes. (col. 2, lines 40-

42). In particular, according to Menzies, if an MIB object corresponds to a scalar collection, the MIB object is mapped to a singleton MOF class, such as by accessing a mapping table. Alternatively, if the MIB object corresponds to a table collection, the MIB object information is mapped to a class capable of describing a plurality of instances (col. 2, lines 47-54). While Menzies provides the above description of handling objects, Menzies fails to provide any disclosure or suggestion of receiving a request message from an SNMP client, and mapping the request message into CIM formats. Consequently, Menzies does not support the rejection of the originally filed claims as obvious under 35 USC §103(a).

The Office Action states on page 5, paragraphs 3 and 4, that “Chu discloses the claimed step of message,” and that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Menzies and Chu. However, Chu similarly fails to disclose or suggest receiving a request message from an SNMP client, and mapping the request message into CIM formats. Chu generally describes the transmission of a “message” from client to server (page 4, paragraph 0035), but provides no teaching of a “request message” which is received from an SNMP client and mapped into CIM formats. Thus, contrary to the assertion in the Office Action, Chu does not support a rejection of the claims as obvious under 35 USC §103(a).

Even if Chu could somehow be combined with Menzies under 35 USC §103(a), this combination of references would not support a rejection of the claims as obvious, because the combination fails to disclose or suggest receiving a request message from an SNMP client, and mapping the request message into CIM formats. Thus, Menzies and Chu, taken alone or in combination, fail to support the obviousness rejections in the Office Action. These rejections are unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

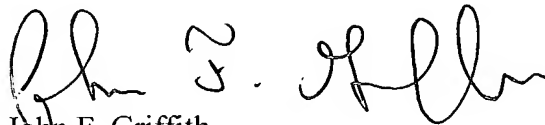
CONCLUSION

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicant submits that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a further telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicant's attorney can be reached at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Griffith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent part.

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